

## **HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 24, 2020**

The Howard County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November, 24 2020, at 4:02 pm. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included Council President James Papacek, Council Vice-President Jamie Bolser, Bryan Alexander, Leslie G. Fatum Stanley E. Ortman, John J. Roberts and Thomas N. Trine. Also, in attendance was County Attorney Alan Wilson and County Auditor Martha Lake. The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Jerry Asher and conducted by President James Papacek.

Council President James Papacek led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Bryan Alexander gave a word of prayer.

### **IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the regular Council meeting on October 27, 2020, meeting, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by All Council members and All Council members seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **IN THE MATTER OF ORD. NO. 2020-HCCO-45 - ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2020:**

Auditor Martha Lake read Ordinance No. 2020-HCCO-45 – Additional Appropriations one time, and the ordinance was acted upon as follows:

<b><u>Additional Appropriations:</u></b>		<b>Requested</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b><u>1000</u></b>	<b><u>HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL FUND:</u></b>		
<b><u>0068</u></b>	<b><u>HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL - COMMISSIONERS:</u></b>		
31200	Contract Services	35,000.00	35,000.00
35120	Insurance Bldg. & Vehicle	25,000.00	25,000.00
	<b><u>TOTAL HOWARD COUNTY - COMMISSIONERS</u></b>	<b><u>60,000.00</u></b>	<b><u>60,000.00</u></b>
<b><u>0089</u></b>	<b><u>HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL -COVID RELIEF FUND</u></b>		
20000	Supplies	4,749.17	4,749.1
30000	Other Services and Charges	307,197.58	307,197.5
32160	Communications	24,000.00	24,000.00
33740	Care of Individuals	153,270.00	153,270.00
37014	2020 Forgivable Loans	240,875.28	240,875.28
47210	Equipment	921,845.76	921,845.76
50001	Transfer Account (available for appropriations for future)	489,142.01	489,142.01
	<b><u>TOTAL HOWARD COUNTY - COVID RELIEF:</u></b>	<b><u>2,141,079.80</u></b>	<b><u>2,141,079.80</u></b>
	<b><u>TOTAL HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL FUND:</u></b>	<b><u>2,201,079.80</u></b>	<b><u>2,201,079.80</u></b>
<b><u>1212</u></b>	<b><u>HOWARD COUNTY - CASA</u></b>		
11113	Director	6,924.00	6,924.0
15210	FICA	630.00	630.00

15220	PERF	1,464.00	1,464.00
15230	Insurance	6,046.00	6,046.00
<b><u>TOTAL HOWARD COUNTY CASA FUND:</u></b>		<b><u>15,064.00</u></b>	<b><u>15,064.00</u></b>
<b><u>TOTAL HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL FUND:</u></b>		<b><u>2,216,143.80</u></b>	<b><u>2,216,143.80</u></b>
<b><u>TOTAL ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS ALL FUNDS:</u></b>		<b><u>2,216,143.80</u></b>	<b><u>2,216,143.80</u></b>

**1000.0068– Howard County General Fund, Commissioners – Paul Wyman**  
**1000.0068**

Commissioner Paul Wyman, stated that the request for Additional Appropriations is for contract services. This is a result of the remodeling project and the contract with the **DLZ**. Commissioner Wyman is also asking for Additional Appropriations for Insurance Bldg. & Vehicle this is to cover the Medical Director ENO Medical Insurance.

**1000.0089 – Howard County General, COVID – Paul Wyman**

Commissioner Wyman, presented Resolution No. 2020 – BCCR-13, this is the Resolution that provides reimbursement for Public Health, Public Safety, and payroll costs with the CARES Act Funding. Additional Appropriations that Commission Wyman is asking for is a result of the CARES Act money, this is the County’s portion of about 2.6 million. Commissioner Wyman stated that the community has been blessed to receive this money. Normally items purchased would not have had appropriations available. The Commissioners immediately coordinated with the Auditors office, and the state of Indiana. Barnes and Thornburg were contacted as they have experts on staff that we could consult with. We really had no idea what we would spend 2.6 million dollars on, as the pandemic unfolded we realized that there were going to be serious expenditures needed and we wanted to make sure that we had an expert on our team to make sure that we would qualify for every dollar available to us. The Commissioners had conference calls with the council members to explain that CARES Act Funding. The Commissioners also made conference calls with to department heads and asked them to keep track of any expenditures that could be paid under COVID. Also, for them to come up with projects and other things that would impact their departments from a COVID stand point. The State Government became overwhelmed with the number of requests that needed to be approved state wide, so the state decided that they would just send the county’s the remaining unspent money of the CARES Act Funding per county based on emergency workers pay. The Auditor’s office along with the Commissioners decided to deposit the money into the department in the general fund, making it very transparent as to when the money comes in and when the money goes out and how it was used. Commissioner Wyman asked the council to approve the final appropriations for all of those items, as well as the remaining \$489,000.00, which will be handled in partnership with the Council. Commissioner Wyman stated that he would like to thank the auditor’s office for their work and time that they have spent on the CARES Act Funding, Auditor Lake and her staff have been fantastic working with us and getting the funds approved thru the state. Commissioner Wyman recognize Lynda Ogle from the Auditors office for her hard work with the CARES Act Funding. Ms. Ogle has been doing this work along with her regular job in the Auditor office. We have been able to utilize CARES Act dollars to get things done that we would have not gotten done in County Government. Councilwoman Bolser would like to thank Ms. Ogle for her hard work also. Councilwoman Bolser asked if there is an end date to using the CARES Act Funds. Commissioner Wyman stated that Appropriations will extend to the end of the year so any invoices or contracts prior to the end of the year will be encumbent. Auditor Lake stated that the grant will stop and it will become general fund money from then on. Councilwoman Bolser asked if all the expenditures on the transfer sheet for the \$2,141,000.00 have they been approved by the state or only the \$531,000.00? Commissioner Wyman stated that only \$531,000.00 was approved and paid, the remaining was approved but were not paid to the county, the state gave the county the remaining money in one lump sum. Councilwoman Bolser said that it was her understanding that the Commissioners and the Auditor’s office reached out to the Library and Recycling District, and the Township Trustees. Councilman Roberts applauded Commissioner Wyman for all his hard work and leadership during this unrepresented time. Commissioner Wyman said it has been a great team effort with many people involved across County Government and City Government, Board of Health, the Health Department, and the Medical Community. The team has worked very well together and that is why we are having the successes that we are having. Councilman Alexander said thank you to everybody as well. Councilwoman Bolser asked if the council could get updates on the expenditures, Commissioner Wyman said that when they get four or five items on a list then

they will update the council. Councilwoman Bolser stated eight months in to the pandemic and the county has spent a lot of money, with the COVID cases up at the jail. She wanted to make sure that the sheriff department, the inmates, and all the staff are taken care of. Commissioner Wyman stated we still have three to six months of the pandemic to go most likely and we hope to get the vaccine started soon so that we can get on the other side of this pandemic. Commissioner Wyman, said we anticipate the vaccine to be in Howard County early to mid to December and the vaccine is scheduled to be shipped to front line workers, hospitals, nursing homes. Once that is done, then it will move to people that are at most risk, essential workers, then the general community. The county's current rates are averaging about seventy a day of new confirmed cases, on October 16<sup>th</sup> we only had ten a day. We have had seventy-five deaths recorded so far, the hospitalization is up as well. There are also 5-8 people on ventilators now in Howard County. The statics are showing that thee younger age groups are getting COVID. Council President Papacek stated that people ask how Howard County gets things done. He said we are a prime example of working together, and it's the people that get it done.

The Governor has released twenty million dollars for the state of Indiana, Howard County will receive approximately \$267,000.00, for safety awareness. The Commissioners and the Auditors office will start the same process with this money. The money will be used for public safety, Jail, Work Release, etc. Councilman Ortman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-BCCR-13, as read. Councilwoman Fatum seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **1212 – Howard County CASA- Katina Silver**

Mrs. Silver, after 22 years of service I will be leaving my position with the CASA program. She stated that it has been a blessing to live her passion for 22 years. There are still sixty-two kids waiting to have their needs met. Mrs. Holly Becker has been chosen as her replacement, Mrs. Becker has been working with CASA since the first week of November. Mrs. Silver stated that she will be available until the end of December to assist Mrs. Becker. Mrs. Silver is asking that these Additional Appropriations be transferred to cover those adjustments. Council President Papacek thanked Mrs. Silver for her service, and stated that she has done a fabulous job for the county and the CASA program, Mrs. Silver said that the program is being left in good hands with Mrs. Becker and she will do a great job! Others expressed their thanks to Mrs. Silver as well.

Councilwoman Fatum made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-HCCO-45, Additional Appropriations, as presented. Councilman Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2020-HCCR - 14- TRANSFERS:**

Auditor Martha Lake read Ordinance No. 2020-HCCR-14-Transfers one time, and the ordinance was acted upon as follows:

	<b>Transfer From:</b>	<b>To:</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Allowed</b>
<b><u>1000</u></b>	<b><u>HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL FUND:</u></b>			
<b><u>0000</u></b>	<b><u>Benefits</u></b>			
15220	PERF	15230 Insurance	300,000.00	300,000.00
<b><u>0002</u></b>	<b><u>Auditor Office:</u></b>			
11302	1st. Deputy Finance Mgr.	11612 GIS Coordinator	24,409.00	24,409.00
11302	1st. Deputy Finance Mgr.	11200 Chief Deputy	167.00	167.00
<b><u>0005</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Sheriff Department:</u></b>			
11408	Crt. Security Officer	11314 Detective Coordinator	800.00	800.00
11408	Crt. Security Officer	11702 Lieutenant	600.00	600.00
11408	Crt. Security Officer	11704 Captain II	600.00	600.00
11408	Crt. Security Officer	11907 OT- Deputy	3,000.00	3,000.00
<b><u>0009</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Prosecutor:</u></b>			
11310	First Dep. Sup III	11311 First Deputy DTF	386.51	386.51
11310	First Dep. Sup III	11317 Administrator	37.40	37.40
11310	First Dep. Sup III	11323 Dep. Pros. Sup III	18.42	18.42

11310	First Dep. Sup III	11327	Dep. Pros. Sup IV	226.46	226.46
<b><u>0062</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Election:</u></b>				
11602	Precinct Officials	11335	Absentee Voter Board	3,000.00	3,000.00
31210	Contact Services	11335	Absentee Voter Board	14,000.00	14,000.00
32130	Travel & Training	11335	Absentee Voter Board	2,000.00	2,000.00
32530	Equipment Repair	11335	Absentee Voter Board	2,000.00	2,000.00
35640	Rental\Lease	11335	Absentee Voter Board	1,500.00	1,500.00
<b><u>0235</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Community Supervision:</u></b>				
11345	Asst. Chief Prob Officer	11253	PO Dir. Home Detention	938.00	938.00
<b><u>9600</u></b>	<b><u>Howard Haven:</u></b>				
11416	Housekeeping /Cook	11800	Overtime	2,000.00	2,000.00
11700	Part-Time	11800	Overtime	1,000.00	1,000.00
23210	Gas, Oil, Lubricants	32160	Communications	500.00	500.00
<b><u>9601</u></b>	<b><u>Information System:</u></b>				
11800	Overtime	11239	Network Admin	13.22	13.22
<b><u>1114</u></b>	<b><u>LIT Special Purpose:</u></b>				
<b><u>0000</u></b>	<b><u>No Department/ Benefits:</u></b>				
15220	PERF	15230	Emp Insurance	300,000.00	300,000.00
<b><u>0380</u></b>	<b><u>Jail</u></b>				
11906	Corrections Officer	11910	Chief Matron/Personnel	500.00	500.00
11906	Corrections Officer	12200	OT Correctional Officer	10,000.00	10,000.00
11916	Jail Corporal	11914	Sgt. First Class	600.00	600.00
12504	Staff Nurse	12500	Nurse Admin	200.00	200.00
<b><u>1159</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Health Department Fund:</u></b>				
11800	Overtime	11142	Health Officer	123.30	123.30
11800	Overtime	11506	Env. Health Coord.	1,737.48	1,737.48
11800	Overtime	15220	PERF	6,500.00	6,500.00
<b><u>1170</u></b>	<b><u>LIT Public Safety Fund:</u></b>				
12300	Dispatcher	12306	Sgt. Shift Supervisor	5,000.00	5,000.00
12304	PT Dispatch	12305	OT Dispatchers	20,000.00	20,000.00
<b><u>1181</u></b>	<b><u>Plat Book Fund:</u></b>				
11200	Chief Deputy	11601	GIS/ Prop Rec Tech/ Coord.	387.00	387.00
11291	Hourly Pay	11303	1st. Deputy Tax Manger (3)	100.00	100.00
15210	FICA	15230	Insurance	100.00	100.00
<b><u>1189</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Records Record Perpetuation:</u></b>				
11700	Part Time	11305	First Deputy	605.20	605.20
11700	Part Time	11200	Chief Deputy	244.57	244.57
<b><u>1197</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Stormwater Mgmt. Operation Fund:</u></b>				
11700	Part Time	15230	Insurance	300.00	300.00
<b><u>4930</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Prosecutor Law Enforcement Fund Office:</u></b>				
11419	Investigator	47210	Equipment	17,610.00	17,610.00
30000	Other Services & Charges	47210	Equipment	55,000.00	55,000.00

Council President James Papacek made the decision because of COVID to limit the number of people in the meeting room.

**1000.0002,0000,1181 – General Fund, Howard County Auditor’s office – Martha Lake**

**1000.0000 No Department/ Benefits,- Auditor Lake**

Auditor Lake addressed her request to transfer funds from the 15220 PERF to 15230 Emp. Insurance. Auditor Lake said that she appropriated a little higher so benefits will be covered. Auditor Lake stated that the budget was set the same as in 2019, there will be \$300,000.00 transfer to the general Fund and \$300,000.00 to the LIT Fund. Benefits are a big part of the budget. The Insurance fund is healthy at this time with over \$3,000,000.00 in the fund.

**1000.0002- Auditor Lake**

Auditor Lake addressed her request to transfer funds from 11302 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Finance Mgr. to GIS Coordinator and 11200 Chief Deputy to cover for the fact that Mrs. Laura Johnson the GIS Director and Chief Deputy retired. Mrs. Christi Mosier will be the new GIS Director, but not the Chief Deputy. Mrs. Renae Adam’s was made Chief Deputy. Positions and pays were changed thus making the transfer of funds necessary.

**1181- Plat Book Fund: Auditor Lake**

Auditor Lake addressed her request to transfer funds from coordinating the transfers in this fund with the ones in the General Fund.

**1000.0005,1114,0380,1170 – General Fund, Howard Sheriff Dept. – Jerry Asher**

0005-Sheriff Asher addressed his request to transfer funds from 11408 Crt. Security office to 11314,11702,11704,11907 this is to fill in for the deficient in the funds. He states that they have been keeping track of the overtime for COVID, will be doing an audit of the overtime. He also stated that some employees are not working due to COVID, including three jail nurses.

**0380- Jail – Jerry Asher**

Sherriff Asher addressed his request to transfer funds from 11906 Corrections Officer to 11910 Chief Matron/Personnel, 12200 OT Correction Office transfer from 11916 Jail Corporal to 11914 Sgt. First Class, 12504 Staff Nurse to 12500 Nurse Admin.

**1170 – LIT Public Safety Fund:**

Sheriff Asher addressed his request to transfer funds from 12300 Dispatcher \$5,000.00 to 12306 Sgt. Shift Supervisor this is a new position as of this year, this was just under estimated. Councilwoman Bolser wanted to make sure that Sheriff Asher is using the CARES Act Fund to get reimbursed for the overtime. Sheriff Asher stated that the jail staff is keeping track of the overtime for this purpose.

**1000.0009,4930 - Howard County Prosecutor Office – Mark McCann**

Auditor Lake presented in the absent of Mark McMann, Auditor Lake addressed the request to transfer funds from 11419 Investigator to 47210 Equipment to cover for the purchase of the furniture for the Prosecutor office.

**1000.0062 – Howard County Election Office – Debbie Stewart**

Auditor Lake presented in the absence of Mrs. Stewart. Auditor Lake addressed the request to transfer funds from 11602 Precinct Officials to 11332 Absentee Voter Board to cover the election and would be for 31210 Contract Services, 32130 Travel & Training, 32530 - Equipment Repair and 35640 Rental/ Lease.

**1000.0235 – Howard County Community Supervision – Dustin Delong**

Community Supervision Director -Dustin Delong is requesting to transfer funds from 11345 Asst. Chief Prob Officer to 11253 PO Director of Home Detention.

**1000.9600 – Howard Haven – Jennifer Brower**

Howard Haven Director -Jennifer Brower - requesting to transfer funds from 11416 Housekeeping/Cook to 11800 Overtime, 11700 Part- Time to Overtime 11800, 2310 Gas, Oil, Lubricants to 32160 Communications.

**1000.9601 – Information System – Jeremy Stevens**

IS Director-Jeremy Stevens – requesting to transfer funds from 11800 Overtime to 11239 Network Admin.

**1159 – Health Dept. - James Vest**

Board of Health Director -James Vest - requesting to transfer funds from 11800 Overtime to 11142 Health Officer, Env. Health Coord., 15220 PERF.

**1189 – Recorders Record Perpetuation – Jennifer Jack**

Recorder's Office-Jennifer Jack - requesting transfer funds from 11700 Part time to 11305 first Deputy, 11200 Chief Deputy.

**1197 – Stormwater Mgmt. Operation – Greg Lake**

Stormwater Mgmt. Greg Lake - requesting to transfer funds from 11700 Part time to 15230 Insurance.

Councilwoman Bolser made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-HCCR-14 Transfers, as read. Councilman Ortman Seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORD. NO. 2020-HCCO-46- AMENDING SALARY ORD. FOR 2020:**

Auditor Martha Lake read Ordinance No. 2020-HCCO-46 Amending Salary Ordinance one time, and the ordinance was acted upon as follows:

	<b><u>Howard County General Fund:</u></b>	<b><u>Requested</u></b>	<b><u>Approved</u></b>
<b><u>0000</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Auditor Office:</u></b>		
<u>15220</u>	PERF	(300,000.00)	(300,000.00)
<u>15230</u>	Insurance	300,000.00	300,000.00
<b><u>0002</u></b>	<b><u>No Department /Benefits</u></b>		
11302	1st. Deputy Finance Mgt.	(24,576.00)	(24,576.00)
11612	GIS Coordinator	24,409.00	24,409.00
11200	Chief Deputy	167.00	167.00
<b><u>0005</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County General - Sheriff Office:</u></b>		
11408	Crt. Security Office	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
11314	Detective Coordinator	800.00	800.00
11702	Lieutenant	600.00	600.00
11704	Captain II	600.00	600.00
11907	OT Deputy	3,000.00	3,000.00
<b><u>0009</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County General - Prosecuting Attorney:</u></b>		
11310	First Dep. Sup III	(668.79)	(668.79)
11311	First Deputy DTF	386.51	386.51
11317	Administrator	37.40	37.40
11323	Dep. Pros. Sup III	18.42	18.42
11327	Dep. Pros. Sup IV	226.46	226.46
<b><u>0062</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County General - Election:</u></b>		
11602	Precinct Officials	(3,000.00)	(3,000.00)
11335	Absentee Voter Board	22,500.00	22,500.00

<b><u>0235</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Community Supervision:</u></b>		
11253	Asst. Chief Prob Officer	(938.00)	(938.00)
11345	PO Director of Home Detention	938.00	938.00
<b><u>9600</u></b>	<b><u>Howard Haven:</u></b>		
11416	Housekeeping /Cook	(2,000.00)	(2,000.00)
11700	Part-Time	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)
11800	Overtime	3,000.00	3,000.00
<b><u>9601</u></b>	<b><u>Information System:</u></b>		
11800	Overtime	(13.22)	(13.22)
11239	Network Admin	13.22	13.22
<b><u>1114</u></b>	<b><u>LIT Special Purpose:</u></b>		
<b><u>0000</u></b>	<b><u>No Department/Benefits</u></b>		
15220	PERF	(300,000.00)	(300,000.00)
15230	Emp Insurance	300,000.00	300,000.00
<b><u>0380</u></b>	<b><u>Jail</u></b>		
11906	Corrections Officer	(10,500.00)	(10,500.00)
11916	Jail Corporal	(600.00)	(600.00)
12504	Staff Nurse	(200.00)	(200.00)
11910	Chief Matron/Personnel	500.00	500.00
12200	OT Correctional Officer	10,000.00	10,000.00
11914	Sgt. First Class	600.00	600.00
12500	Nurse Admin	200.00	200.00
<b><u>1159</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Health Department:</u></b>		
11800	Overtime	(8,360.78)	(8,360.78)
11142	Health Officer	123.30	123.30
11506	Env. Health Coord.	1,737.48	1,737.48
15220	PERF	6,500.00	6,500.00
<b><u>1170</u></b>	<b><u>LIT Public Safety Fund:</u></b>		
12300	Dispatcher	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
12304	PT Dispatch	(20,000.00)	(20,000.00)
12306	Sgt. Shift Supervisor	5,000.00	5,000.00
12305	OT Dispatchers	20,000.00	20,000.00
		-	-
<b><u>1181</u></b>	<b><u>Plat Book Fund:</u></b>		
11291	Hourly Pay	(100.00)	(100.00)
11200	Chief Deputy	(387.00)	(387.00)
15210	FICA	(100.00)	(100.00)
11303	1st. Deputy Tax Manger (3)	100.00	100.00
11601	GIS/ Prop Rec Tech/ Coord.	387.00	387.00
15230	Insurance	100.00	100.00
<b><u>1189</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Recorders Record Perpetuation:</u></b>		
11700	Part Time	(849.77)	(849.77)
11305	First Deputy	605.20	605.20
11200	Chief Deputy	244.57	244.57

<b><u>1197</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Stormwater Mgmt. Operation Fund:</u></b>		
11700	Part Time	(300.00)	(300.00)
15230	Insurance	300.00	300.00
<b><u>1212</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County CASA:</u></b>		
11113	Director	6,924.00	6,924.00
15210	FICA	630.00	630.00
15220	PERF	1,464.00	1,464.00
15230	Insurance	6,046.00	6,046.00
<b><u>4930</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Prosecutor Law Enforcement Fund Office:</u></b>		
11419	Investigator	(17,610.00)	(17,610.00)

Auditor Lake explained that the salary amendment items were also covered under the additional appropriations and transfer documents which the council previously approved. Councilman Alexander made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-HCCO-46, Amending Salary Ordinance, as read. Councilwoman Bolser seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS:** Councilman Stan Ortman made a motion to rebill for the Health Insurance shortfall from 2018. Councilman Ortman is making a motion to rebill the entities for the short fall for the health Insurance fund and give them three years to repay. Councilman Roberts said that he would like to support Councilman Ortman's motion. Councilman Roberts says that it seems to be a fair way to pay the money back to the general fund, there was no ill intent on anybody's part. Councilman Roberts believes the money needs to be reimbursed to the General fund. Council President James Papacek called on Attorney Wilson to verify that this fell under their authority of the Commissioners and they chose to forgive the repayment of the money. The Commissioners did acknowledge that an error was made and told the entities this would be forgiven. Attorney Wilson replied that this has been taken care of and it was an administrative decision that falls solely on the Commissioners. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Wyman said the Commissioners, Councilman Papacek, Councilman Stout, the Auditors office, HR and Legal had extensive discussion if we should go back and ask those entities for the dollars back. Also, discussions were held with the entities and since they weren't the ones who made the billing mistakes they would have to make changes to their budget, or they would have to do additional appropriations to reimburse County Government. At the time County Government was financially strong, and the County is debt free. Commissioner Wyman didn't want the recycling, library or any other entities to have to cut services because of an under billing that happened over a period of years. Commissioner Wyman stated that a plan was put in place to prevent future mistakes.

**IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:**

Approving Ordinance for the Perpetuation Fund for 2021

Recorder Jennifer Jack presented the annual ordinance for the Perpetuation Fund. The recorder's office is self-funded and this Ordinance No. 2020-HCCO-52 in the amount of \$300,000.00. The State Board of Accounts recommends that we put an ordinance into place that the affidavit states that we have checked with our technology partners. I have spoken to Mr. Stevens from the IS Dept to make sure there are no big upgrades for 2021. This will allow us to cover salaries and operating expenses for 2021, this will leave sufficient monies in the fund if anything would come up. I would like to thank Mrs. Adams from the Auditor's office for all her help. Councilwoman Bolser made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-HCCO-52 Perpetuation Fund for 2021, as read. Councilwoman Fatum seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Recorder Mrs. Jack thanked Councilman Ortman for his years of service to the County. She then congratulated Mrs. Becker on her new position as the CASA Director.

**OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

**Proposed Increase in Salaries for 2021** Director of the Health Department- James Vest

Commissioner Wyman presented on behalf of Mr. Vest, Mr. Vest had turned in a budget that would be about \$20,000.00 higher in 2021 than 2020, this increase is due to salary increases. We did a market studying of the private sector and surrounding counties and we are under paying our health department staff, for example under the Administrator salary in the private sector they are being paid \$68,000.00 and there are six peer counties above that pay between \$69,000.00 - \$113,000.00. Howard County is currently paying this position \$54,000.00. We are asking to raise the salary by



\$4,000.00.Combine Administrator -Financial salary the same with this position we are paying this position \$54,000.00; all of the peer counties are paying more on this position as well and the private sector is paying \$113,000.00. We are asking for a \$4,000.00 increase, this doesn't come close to the next peer county which is Hendricks County who pays this position \$65,000.00. The other two positions are the Environmental Director and the Environmental Health Specialists- Restaurant Inspector, we are asking to raise the salary by \$2,000.00 each.They have made two adjustments that are coming from Mal practice polices that Dr Becker changed this year and it is \$10,000.00, the overtime is being cut \$10.000.00, so the net new difference in the Health Departments budget is \$20,000.00 to allow for these adjustments. This was presented to the PAC Committee; the PAC Committee is bringing this forward with a unanimous recommendation to approve this adjustment. Commissioner Wyman stated that you would be approving this and it will come into effect in January 2021. Auditor Lake stated that the Health Departments operating Budget is \$1,041,000.00 and with this adjustment it will go down to \$1,021,000.00.Councilwoman Bolser stated that she is excited that this is the first PAC approval under the new procedures. Commissioner Wyman stated the Health department should get this salary increase, they are doing so much above their regular jobs, flu shots, TB patients, Children shots, inspecting restaurants. They are dealing with the pandemic and their regular jobs every day, it has been nothing short of an honor to work side by side with them. Councilman Roberts stated that it is comforting to know that Mr. Vest is doing this to reward his team for all their hard work, it was humbly to be a part of the meeting and to know a person with such integrity. Councilman President Papacek indicated it was the consensus of the Council to approve the request for the Proposed Increase of Salaries for 2021. A motion was made and seconded to approve the salary increases for 2021. The request will come back in the form of additional appropriations in Jan. 2021,

#### **Review of 2021 Council Meeting Dates**

Councilman President Papacek ask the Council to review the Meeting Dates and they will be approved on the December 4<sup>th</sup> 2020 Council meeting.

#### **Council 2021 Appointments**

Pam Isaac- Council 2021 Appointments/Reappointments:

Reappointment to the Kokomo Howard County Public Library Board- Councilman President Papacek is reappointing Mary Baker to the Kokomo Howard County Public Library Board. Councilwoman Bolser made a motion to approve the reappointment of Mary Baker to the Kokomo Howard County Public Library Board as presented. Councilman Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Reappointment to the Alcohol Beverage Commission - Councilman President Papacek is reappointing Beth Harshman to the Alcohol Beverage Commission. Councilwoman Fatum made a motion to approve the reappointment of Beth Harshman to the Alcohol Beverage Commission as presented. Councilwoman Bolser seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

*There being no further business to come before the Council*

*At this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m., on a motion made by Councilwoman Bolser. Councilwoman Fatum seconded the motion and the motion carried.*

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

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JAMES T. PAPACEK, PRESIDENT

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JAMIE L. BOLSER, VICE PRESIDENT

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BRYAN ALEXANDER, MEMBER

---

LESLIE G. FATUM, MEMBER

---

STANLEY E. ORTMAN, MEMBER

---

JOHN J. ROBERTS, MEMBER

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THOMAS N. TRINE, MEMBER

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MARTHA J. LAKE, AUDITOR

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 24 , 2020